

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: NIES

Application No.:

Examiner:

Filed: Herewith

Group Art Unit:

For: **MULTI-MODE TRAVELING SPRINKLER**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

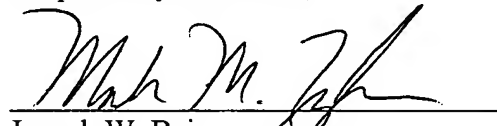
Pursuant to the Duty to Disclose under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby discloses information that may be relevant to the Examiner's consideration of the above-identified application and the patentability of its claims.

Applicant maintains that the inventions as claimed in the above-identified application distinguish over this prior art. This information is provided so that the Examiner can make an independent determination.

Date:

11/16/2003

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph W. Bain

Registration No. 34,290

Mark M. Zylka

Registration No. 48,518

Akerman Senterfitt

222 Lakeview Avenue, Fourth Floor

Post Office Box 3188

West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3188

Phone: (561) 653-5000

Fax: (561) 659-6313

Docket No.: 7398-2

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Sheet

1

of

1

Application Number

Filing Date

Herewith

First Named Inventor

Nies

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

7398-2

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 3,126,156	03/24/64	Rinkewich	
		US- 2,683,056	07/06/54	Hilfinger	
		US- 3,430,859	03/04/69	Chow	
		US- 3,643,442	02/22/72	Houston	
		US- 5,711,490	01/27/98	Hansinger	
		US- 1,881,539	10/11/32	Harris	
		US- 2,602,696	07/08/52	Salatin	
		US- 2,540,556	02/06/51	Salatin	
		US- 4,346,842	08/31/82	Botha	
		US- 4,488,683	12/18/84	Chiel	
		US- 4,671,315	06/09/87	Gardner	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.